

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
24 February 2005 (24.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/017113 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

C12N

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/026035

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(22) International Filing Date: 11 August 2004 (11.08.2004)

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/494,631 11 August 2003 (11.08.2003) US

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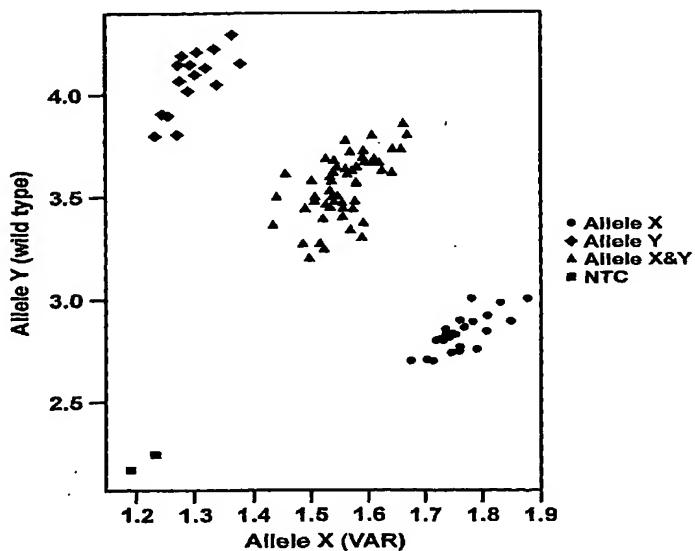
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METALLOPROTEINASE GENE POLYMORPHISM IN COPD



(57) Abstract: A method for genetic testing relating to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including testing for a single nucleotide polymorphism within the metalloproteinase-9 gene, an exon 6, codon 279 Gln/Arg polymorphism, where in presence of the variant polymorphism, particularly homozygous presence, is predictive of susceptibility to COPD. Further provided are methods of selecting patients for specific therapies and methods of drug development and discovery for treatment and prevention of COPD.

WO 2005/017113 A2



Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
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PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/017113 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C07H 21/04, C12Q 1/68

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search report*
— *with amended claims*

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
9 June 2005

Date of publication of the amended claims: 1 September 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 2005/017113 A3

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Published:

— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments

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